UCSF Newsbreak

News for the UCSF Campus Community

VOL. 11, NO. 19 NOVEMBER 8, 1996

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Chancellor resigns to become Harvard dean; Independent panel supports merger

By JUDITH WOODARD

Joseph B. Martin announced Friday that he will step down as chancellor of UCSF to accept the position of dean of the Harvard Faculty of Medicine, effective July 1, 1997.

Martin has been chancellor of UCSF since July 1993, following four years as dean of the UCSF School of Medicine.

"The past seven years have been an extraordinary time for me," Martin announced to the UC Board of Regents at its meeting at Laurel Heights. "I have been privileged to preside over a continued steady ascent of UCSF as an international force in education and research."

Martin characterized his decision to accept the dean's position at Harvard Medical School as a return to a more direct involvement with "the activities I love most, working in the field of neurology and neuroscience, having the opportunity to interact closely with students and having time to form effective working relationships with faculty." Martin served on the faculty of Harvard Medical School from 1978 until he joined UCSF in 1989. He will return to Harvard to become the first new dean of the medical faculty in 20 years.

> *"The past seven years have been an extraordinary time for me."*
>
> — Joseph B. Martin, Chancellor

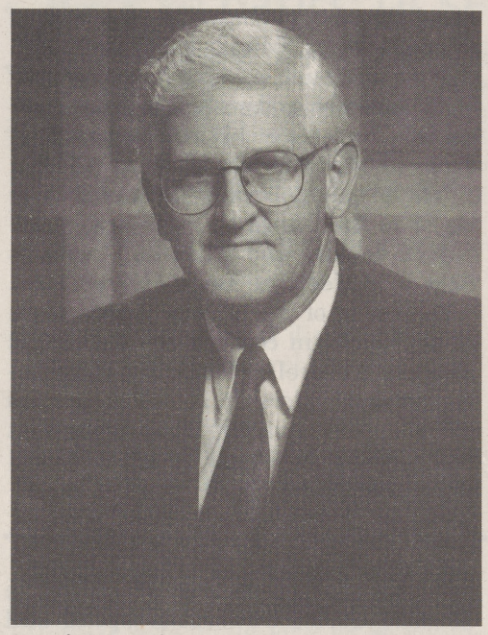
Martin acknowledged that "timing is never perfect in the making of life's decisions" and indicated his desire to fully inform the Board of Regents of his plans as they consider the next steps in the proposed merger of the UCSF and Stanford University medical centers.

"We are, after lengthy deliberations, poised to embark on one of the most important and influential mergers in the history of academic medicine," Martin said. Referring to a very favorable financial review of the proposed merger by an independent committee, he said, "Their findings confirm my own convictions regarding the importance of this action."

An internationally recognized leader in the field of neurological sciences, Martin's accomplishments at UCSF are many. In addition to the pending merger decision, Martin will leave UCSF with major progress in or accomplishment of these key campus goals and priorities:

- UCSF's first ever Capital Campaign was completed in July 1996, raising more than $550 million. Annual contributions to the campus have exceeded $100 million in each of the past three years.
- New faculty recruitments and the completion of the cancer research building at the UCSF/Mount Zion campus will provide progress toward the establishment of a National Cancer Institute designated Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCSF.
- Relationships with UCSF's neighbors in San Francisco have improved dramatically in the past few years with the formation of a city-wide Community Advisory Group (CAG), consisting of a diverse group of neighborhood, labor, ethnic and business leaders. Working with UCSF faculty and staff representatives, CAG has created a joint statement of goals and objectives for UCSF's long term growth and development and consulted on its Long Range Development Plan (LRDP).
- The LRDP is scheduled for review and approval by the UC Regents in January. It calls for reinvestment and renewal in the main campus at

(See **Martin** on page 2)



Joseph B. Martin

By LISA CISNEROS

The UC Regents considered a report from an independent team Friday that declares the proposed merger of clinical enterprises of the UCSF Medical Center with Stanford Health Services and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital a "sound business decision for the University of California."

The full board of the UC Regents is expected to take action on the merger when they meet Friday, Nov. 15 at Laurel Heights, following committee consideration on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

"The proposed merger offers UCSF Medical Center stronger financial prospects," say the report authors headed by F. Warren Hellman, general partner of a San Francisco-based investment firm. "This improved financial health enables the continued support for the UCSF School of Medicine, ensures the ability to maintain the care provided for indigent patients and offers the opportunity to grow its clinical volume and therefore support more healthcare workers relative to UCSF Medical Center on a standalone basis."

The three-member team reviewed the financial and business plan prepared by senior managers at UCSF and Stanford in cooperation with consultants from Ernst & Young. After conducting additional analysis, the team concluded that UCSF would be better off merging with Stanford than operating independently in Northern California's highly competitive health care market. "By the year 2000, UCSF Medical Center's operating deficit is expected to be 3.4 percent of revenues on a standalone basis versus a 3.9 percent operating profit as part of the merged entity," the team reported.

During the public comment part of the meeting Friday, several speakers opposed to the merger questioned the methodology used by the independent reviewers. This methodology did not evaluate nor quantify non-operating sources of income such as net investment income, gifts and clinical teaching support.

Hellman responded that such non-operating income sources were excluded since they are neither guaranteed nor indicative of the underlying performance of each operation. As part of the affiliation agreement, the merged entity would continue to support financially both the UCSF and Stanford schools of medicine at historical levels and would make an incremental annual academic contribution as well as create a reserve fund of adjusted operating profit annually to support each school's academic mission.

Merger a necessary step

A result of the Regents' request last August for an independent analysis of the proposed merger, the report says the merger is necessary to improve UCSF's position in the regional and broader markets, but is by no means "a silver bullet" or single solution for the UCSF Medical Center. The merger is considered one in a series of initiatives that will collectively help improve the Medical Center's financial future.

Specifically, the team found that:

- Even if the merger-related benefits are half of those forecast, UCSF Medical Center would still be financially stronger under a merged scenario;
- Risks associated with the merger can be managed;
- The merged entity would be the market leader in 20 out of 26 medical diagnostic categories;
- The projected reduction of operating expenses by roughly $44 million annually is reasonable given the scope of the planned consolidation;
- While cultural differences exist between the institutions, the "differences between these two entities are far outweighed by their similarities."

The review team also assessed the merger's impact on the UCSF Medical Center's labor force. While the team expects cost-cutting initiatives to reduce the number of employees, it says increased revenues will have the opposite effect. Most employee additions are expected in clinical care as specialty care volume increases, the report says. Under the original business plan assumptions, the net effect of these two opposing forces is estimated to be positive, depending upon the amount of revenues gained.

Earlier this year, UCSF officials promised that the merged corporation will offer employment to 95 percent of the UCSF workforce directly affected by the merger. Ron Kos, chair of the Council of UC Staff Assemblies, asked Friday that the Regents and the UC Office of the President consider establishing a layoff policy that provides severance packages for terminated employees.

(See **Merger** on page 2)

Colleagues praise Martin's leadership

By BRAD FOSS

Hours after Joseph Martin announced he would step down as UCSF's Chancellor, colleagues extolled him as a dynamic leader who has bolstered research and clinical medicine in all disciplines, while aggressively positioning UCSF for a sound fiscal future.

Martin will become the first new dean in 20 years at Harvard University's Faculty of Medicine as of July 1, 1997.

"Joe will leave an indelible imprint on UCSF and the University," said UC President Richard Atkinson. "His unstinting dedication to excellence has been a key stimulus to the success of the campus in attaining increasing international recognition as a leader in education, research, and patient care."

Showing exceptional administrative skills, Martin has demonstrated a commitment to the relevance of basic science in clinical medicine and has kept an eye on the financial future of UCSF, pursuing a historic merger between UCSF and Stanford.

"I am confident in the ability of the strong team that he has put in place on the campus to provide the continuity necessary to further develop the proposed merger," Atkinson said.

Charles Wilson, UCSF neurosurgeon currently serving as senior associate to Atkinson on medical affairs, says that Martin's most important contribution is his recognition that "the University needed a new kind of relationship with industry, particularly the biomedical industry. He was aware that we needed to work in partnership with industry in developing new drugs. That is one of the defining features, I think, of his tenure."

Faculty members lauded Martin for his easy-going style of leadership.

"Joe is one of those rare administrators who is a true colleague; he speaks our language and understands our problems," says Keith Yamamoto, chair of the department of molecular and cellular pharmacology. "Meeting with him is never an exercise in administrative politics, but a collegial exchange."

Bill Kerr, director of the Medical Center, says, "I will miss him very much as a colleague and a friend. He truly understands the complicated issues facing academic health science centers and worked hard to find solutions."

Martin is well-respected for linking the basic sciences and clinical medicine at UCSF. "He has a good perspective in both arenas," says George Kenyon, dean of the school of pharmacy.

(See **Reaction** on page 2)

Private Support

UCSF is pleased to acknowledge the following listing of gifts/pledges of $25,000 or more from individuals, corporations and foundations received Oct. 1-15, 1996.

$500,000 - $999,999

Church and Dwight Company Inc.
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation

$100,000 - $499,999

The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
Hoffmann-La Roche Inc.
Merck & Company Inc.

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Baxter Healthcare Corporation
Ruth Palmer Blanke
The Breast Cancer Research Foundation
CeraMed Dental L.L.C.
Nancy Davis Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis
Friends of the Infant Parents Program
James Irvine Foundation
Jeanne and Sanford Robertson
Surface Genesis Inc.

Grady visits UCSF

Patricia A. Grady, director of the National Institute of Nursing Research, gave a lecture about nursing research leadership when she visited UCSF on Oct. 7. Grady, left, is pictured with Jane Norbeck, dean of the School of Nursing.

Grady sits on the 17-member national board of experts charged with overseeing management of the hospital at the National Institutes of Health. UCSF Medical Center Director Bill Kerr also was named to this board by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala. For the full story, see page 8.

Michele Firpo

Institute of Medicine elects two new UCSF members

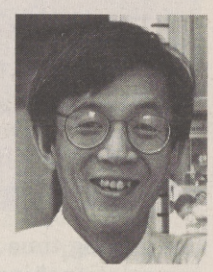
Charlene A. Harrington, professor in the UCSF department of social and behavioral sciences at the UCSF School of Nursing, and Bernard Lo, UCSF professor of medicine and director of the UCSF program in medical ethics have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine.

Fifty-five new members were elected to the Institute nationwide, raising the total active membership to 545. New members are elected by current active members for their major contributions to health and medicine or to related fields. Election to the Institute is both an honor and obligation to work on behalf of the organization and its studies.

Harrington, former chair of the UCSF department of social and behavioral sciences, is one of the nation's leading nurse researchers and policy experts on quality, cost and access of long-term care, particularly for nursing homes, home care and managed care organizations that serve the elderly. She has served as an investigator on more than 27 research projects studying long-term care policies, supply, access, utilization and expenditures since 1980. Harrington is currently principal investigator for a large study to design the Consumer Information System for Nursing Homes, using a database of all 16,000 nursing homes in the country.

Harrington

Lo is internationally known for his research on decisions regarding life-sustaining interventions, ethical issues regarding HIV infection, and the doctor-patient relationship in managed care. He was recently appointed by President Clinton to serve on the National Bioethics Advisory Commission, which is charged to provide guidance to federal agencies on the ethical conduct of current and future human biological and behavioral research.



Lo

Lo is the national program director of a new initiative on the patient-provider relationship in a changing health care environment and he is a member of the Data Safety Monitoring Board of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Division of AIDS.

Merger (from page 1)

The team said that taking the time for this independent review was required to understand the soundness of the business aspects of the decision for UC. But at this point, the team does not see a need to conduct more analysis to determine the viability of the merger and urged the Regents to move forward. "The time to decide has arrived," Hellman said. "We recognize that there is significant uncertainty regarding the future. However, this uncertainty exists with or without the merger. We recommend that the decision not be postponed any further."

The review team advised the merged entity to appoint leaders immediately after the institutions are merged to minimize any lag time in implementing the business plan and to reduce employee fear of the unknown.

As part of their analysis, team members or their representatives met with more than 35 administrators associated with the medical centers, medical schools and universities. Through these interviews the review team found that both parties have a "high degree of mutual respect and a strong sense of commitment to make the merger work." Hellman told the Regents that this level of commitment of management is critical to the merger's success.

In addition to Hellman, the team included John McArthur, former dean of the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration; Samuel Thier, CEO of Partners HealthCare System Inc., president of The Massachusetts General Hospital and professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Working with the team are Charles Farkas and Kristine Miller, of Bain & Company, a management consulting firm.

"While we cannot predict what future environmental challenges the merged entity will face, we do believe that each entity will be better able to confront these challenges together than apart," Hellman said.

Reaction (from page 1)

"What makes him so special is his understanding of how basic science and clinical medicine can collaborate," Yamamoto added.

Zina Mirsky, associate dean of the School of Nursing, said Martin was a cohesive force on campus, building a "collective treasure," made up of a diverse student and faculty population, who contribute to an equally broad range of scientific and professional missions.

"He has sought a relationship with each school and it shows in that he has also come to know the many challenges of today's health care. He's truly understood the impact these have on each of our professions," Mirsky said.

With so much at stake in terms of UCSF's future, and such strong commendation from all of his colleagues, why then did Martin accept Harvard's offer?

"He is leaving because he wants to be closer to the things he loves best — research, faculty and students," explains School of Medicine Dean Haile Debas. "The timing of the announcement is an issue, but I am confident we will find another chancellor with the same integrity and leadership. And, I'm sure Joe will remain very active in ensuring that the merger decisions he started will come to fruition."

Martin (from page 1)

Parnassus and development of a second campus at one of three Bay Area sites.

- After more than a decade of contention and litigation, an acceptable plan has been approved for the Laurel Heights campus as the new home of the Center for Social, Behavioral and Health Policy Studies. Renovation has begun and the building will be fully occupied within three years.
- At a time of unprecedented financial hardship and pressure, UCSF has continued to excel academically and attract the finest faculty and students. Last year, in the National Research Council's 10-year rankings of graduate programs, UCSF's departments of biochemistry and molecular biology ranked first in the nation, genetics second and cellular biology, neurosciences, physiology and biomedical engineering all ranked seventh or above.
- The schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy consistently rank first or second in funding each year from the National Institutes of Health. US News and World Report ranks the UCSF Medical Center seventh in the nation.
- To attract more managed care patients to UCSF, physicians from the UCSF Medical Group and the California Pacific Medical Group formed a new partnership this year, known as the Brown & Toland Medical Group.
- UCSF's commitment to public service has been strengthened, with faculty and staff participating in more than 300 official campus programs, including the Science and Health Education Partnership, a collaborative effort between UCSF and the San Francisco Unified School District. (See page 3 for a brief recap of its 10-year history.)
- The campus recently formed an Office of Technology Management to serve as an advocate for scientists in the corporate world, matching their discoveries with prospective investors.

During his four years as dean, Martin recruited a number of distinguished scientists and physicians. He is known for his efforts to bring together basic scientists and clinical investigators so that research findings are passed quickly along to those needing medical and health care. Among his accomplishments as dean, Martin established the Keck Center for Integrative Neurosciences, which is dedicated to combining studies of the brain and behavior, and the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology at SFGH, dedicated to the study of HIV and AIDS.

A native of Canada, Martin received his medical degree from the University of Alberta in 1962. He completed his residency in neurology and a fellowship in neuropathology at Case Western Reserve University and earned his PhD in anatomy from the University of Rochester in 1970. Martin began a distinguished career in academic medicine in 1970 at McGill University in Montreal, where he eventually became chairman of the department of neurology and neurosurgery. In 1978, he joined the faculty of Harvard Medical School, where he held the title of Julieanne Dorn Professor of Neurology until his UCSF appointment in 1989. He also served as chief of the neurology service at Massachusetts General Hospital, a major teaching hospital and research center affiliated with Harvard.

His research has focused on the use of molecular genetics to better understand the causes of neurological and neurodegenerative disease. In 1980, he established a Huntington's Disease Center at Massachusetts General Hospital that led to a breakthrough in locating a genetic marker near the gene for Huntington's chorea. That finding, which ushered in a whole new era of molecular biology, made possible genetic testing for this neurological disorder before symptoms appear.

In 1989, Martin was selected by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences to chair a prestigious committee on "mapping the human brain." The committee was charged with formulating a system for using new computer technologies to link scientists together to enhance research progress in understanding the functions of the brain and in solving the mysteries of neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and other mental problems. The committee's 1991 report now serves as a major guide for policymakers and federal agencies responsible for supporting and directing the Human Brain Project.

Highly respected by his peers, Martin is the author or co-author of more than 200 scientific articles and is one of the editors of Harrison's Principles of Medicine, a widely used medical text book. He has served on the editorial boards of the New England Journal of Medicine and Science and as an advisor for the development of national policy on biomedical research. He is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the American Association of Physicians, a fellow of the American Association of the Advancement of Science and of the American Neurological Association, serving the latter as president in 1989.

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Deadline for the next issue, to cover Nov. 23–Dec. 20, 1996, will be on **Tuesday, Nov. 12.** Please send news to Lisa Cisneros, 476-3256 or (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu), and calendar items to Brad Foss, 476-3163 or (bfoss@itsa.ucsf.edu), both at Box 0462. Fax last-minute copy to 476-3541.

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Geneticists make progress amid public mistrust

By RUTHANN RICHTER

While human geneticists in the last decade have made tremendous strides in understanding genes and their link to human disease, they have done so in the face of increasing societal mistrust and fear of what their work might bring, says Charles Epstein, UCSF professor of pediatrics and president of the American Society of Human Genetics.

"Progress has been enormous, and we have every reason to be proud of what we have been able to accomplish in such a remarkably short time," Epstein said in his presidential address at the society's 46th annual meeting on Oct. 31. "And yet, we, the genetic researchers and practitioners find ourselves in a disquieting situation. We are accused of engaging in too much 'hype' about what we think we know and are likely to be able to do, and we have been greeted by a considerable amount of equally, if not more egregious, hype from the opposing side.

"Not everyone trusts our motives or intentions, and at the same time that the public is in awe of what we have already done, it fears what it thinks we might be able to do," Epstein said.

Epstein heads the Division of Medical Genetics at UCSF and founded the Medical Genetics Clinic at UCSF in 1967. At the end of 1996, he will pass the baton as president of the genetics society to Larry Shapiro, the W.H. and Marie Wattis Distinguished professor of pediatrics and chair of the department of pediatrics at UCSF. The society is the largest professional organization for human geneticists in North America, with more than 5,000 members.

Societal fear and mistrust of genetics has taken many forms, Epstein said. It has surfaced in legislative hearings and in the university classroom, where genetic testing has been described as "racist, sexist, insensitive and/or just plain misguided," he said. It has led to criticism of gene therapy, which was described in an NIH committee report last year as being hyped by an overzealous research community that has raised hopes of cures "just around the corner."

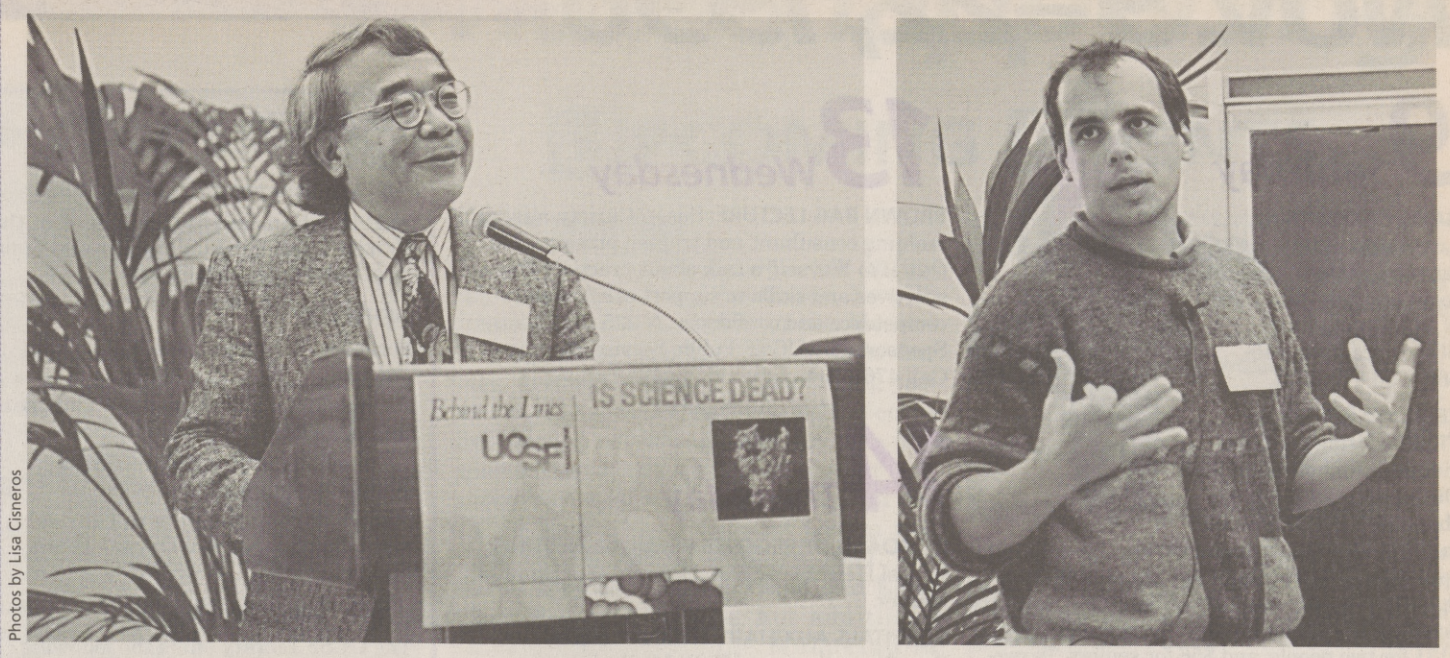
It also has prompted efforts by the FDA and Congress to impose overly restrictive government regulations on DNA research. These include proposed Congressional limits on use of genetic samples, which, if approved, would have "spelled serious trouble for genetic research," Epstein said.

"What troubles me is that there is or is starting to be a breakdown in our ability to engage in rational discourse about what genetics research is all about," Epstein said.

In his own research, Epstein, a member of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, has made important contributions in understanding abnormalities associated with Down syndrome and in locating genes that may contribute to the disease. He has done extensive work on the gene for an antioxidant known as superoxide dismutase (SOD) and is now studying the role of SOD in heart disease, stroke, diabetes, drug addiction and Parkinson's disease.

He said geneticists remain concerned about the social implications of their work and that they need to be strong advocates for their profession while not promising too much — not promoting unfounded fears — and working for regulations that balance personal rights with research and clinical interests.

"While advocating our own position, the human genetics community must be ever mindful that we do not function in isolation and have responsibilities that transcend the purely professional," Epstein said. "We must continue to be and, if anything, become more involved in the social and ethical discussion that increasingly surrounds everything that we do."



Photos by Lisa Cisneros

Back to basics: UCSF scientists agree 'science is not dead'

Keith Yamamoto, left, chair of the School of Medicine's department of cellular and molecular pharmacology, served as moderator in a forum featuring stories from seven researchers who are uncovering some of the basic secrets of life and disease. Didier Stainier, right, assistant professor in the department of biochemistry and biophysics, explained the significance and implications of his research into how the heart develops before Nobel laureate J. Michael Bishop concluded the program with an affirmation of the value of science. Sponsored by the UCSF department of public affairs in collaboration with the UCSF Foundation, the"Behind the Lines" of the UCSF Magazine event honored the Lucille P. Markey Charitable Trust for its long history of philanthropy in support of basic science.

Men, women experience pain relief differently

By JEFFREY NORRIS

It has long been known that women typically report higher levels of pain than do men in similar situations. Now UCSF researchers say there is reason to believe that the sexes also respond differently to pain relieving drugs.

Women can be treated for moderate to severe pain more effectively than men, and with fewer sides effects, by a neglected class of drugs known as kappa-opioids, according to UCSF researchers.

The recently developed drugs are commercially available but seldom prescribed because they have been thought to be less effective than morphine and similar drugs, called mu-opioids.

The UCSF research team studied 48 men and women in their early twenties following surgery to remove their wisdom teeth. Researchers found that women experienced much greater and longer-lasting pain relief than men when both were treated with kappa opioids. Results of the work, which was funded by the National Institutes of Health, appear in the November issue of Nature Medicine.

According to Jon D. Levine, professor of medicine and oral surgery at UCSF and the leader of the research effort, the use of kappa-opioids for women with nerve injury, labor pain, post-surgical pain, cancer pain or other moderate to severe pain should be re-evaluated in light of the UCSF group's recent research. "Kappa-opioid agents appear to be of little clinical benefit for males but produce very satisfactory analgesia for females," he says.

A more fundamental conclusion can be drawn from the UCSF research, according to Levine. "Our studies provide evidence that biologically, men and women do not obtain pain relief in the same way," he says. "It may be that the brain circuitry regulating pain relief differs between the sexes."

Kappa-opioids are marketed as a substitute for mu-opioids such as morphine, codeine, oxycodone and methadone. Mu-opioids have been long regarded by doctors as the most powerful painkillers available, but they frequently cause nausea, sedation, confusion and constipation. Furthermore, patients can develop a tolerance and sometimes even an addiction to these drugs.

For several years, Levine and his colleagues have used wisdom tooth extraction as a model for the study of pain and pain relief. His research team first discovered a difference in the amount of pain relief experienced by men and women last year.

Although it is not clear why, it is well known among pain experts that women report more pain on average than men in response to the same painful situation — a broken arm, for instance, Levine says. But apparently no research team had ever deliberately set out to investigate the possibility that men and women might also experience pain relief differently, he adds.

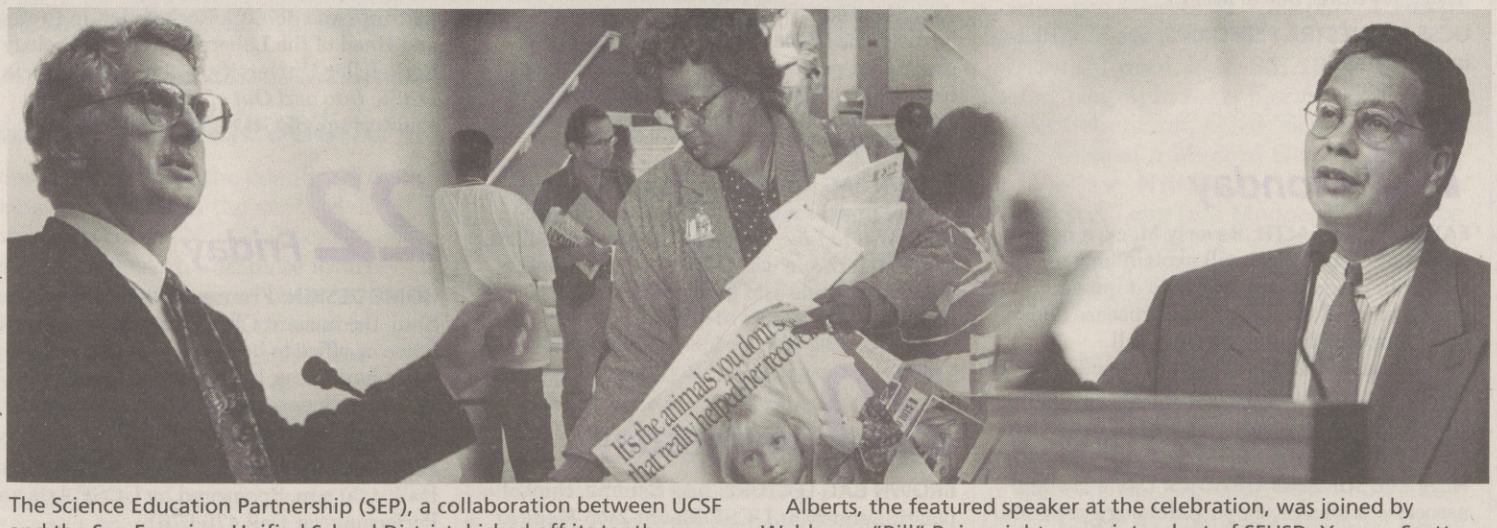
"We have laboriously and exhaustively reviewed the published literature and we cannot find a single study comparing the responses of men and women for any type of painkiller," Levine says.

Levine expects to learn more about the physiological basis of the different responses to kappa-opioid drugs exhibited by men and women by studying female as well as male rats, and possibly through examination of autopsy specimens. In addition, more clinical studies are needed to compare the strength of pain relief provided to women and men by kappa-opioids, mu-opioids, and inactive placebo, Levine says. "One possible explanation for our results is the effect of hormones," Levine says.

Co-authors of the study include Robert W. Gear, assistant clinical professor of restorative dentistry; Christine Miaskowski, professor and chair of the department of physiological nursing; Newton C. Gordon, clinical professor of oral surgery, and Steven M. Paul, senior statistician with the School of Nursing, all from UCSF; and Philip H. Heller, a staff physician with the Kaiser Foundation Hospital, in Hayward, Calif. and a researcher for the UCSF Department of Oral Surgery.

INSIDE UCSF

Reaching out to form Science Education Partnerships



Photos by Robert Foothorap

The Science Education Partnership (SEP), a collaboration between UCSF and the San Francisco Unified School District, kicked off its tenth year of creating science outreach programs on Oct. 2.

Bruce Alberts, left, former chair of biochemistry and current president of the National Academy of Sciences, founded SEP in 1987 to help improve the quality of science education in the city's public schools. The program places UCSF volunteers in classrooms and provides teachers with access to UCSF's material resources.

Alberts, the featured speaker at the celebration, was joined by Waldemar "Bill" Rojas, right, superintendent of SFUSD. Yvonne Scott, center, a local teacher, was one of the 370 elementary, junior high and high school science teachers with whom about 300 students and scientists spent 8,300 hours last year. About 20,000 science students benefitted from the program, which is supported by contributions from local industry, including a recent $10,000 donation from PG&E.
Source: Liesl Chatman, executive director, SEP

Nov. 9–22, 1996

9 Saturday

BASIC CARPENTRY: Learn uses of hand and power tools, and safety. N 417. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sliding scale fee, $45-$60. Call 476-5222.

RESPOND BETTER TO STRESS: Using neurolinguistics, psychologist Robert Dittler describes how we shape reality and how we can best manage our experiences with *The 20 Percent Solution.* 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. Enrollment for one person is $93, $131 for two people, and $56 for seniors. To register, call 330-5353.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Arts and Performances presents *Matilda.* Children under 14 pay $2; UCSF students and MU members, $2.50; UCSF staff, seniors and other students, $3; general public, $3.50. Cole Hall. 6:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. (Film subject to change). Call 476-2542 or www.ArtsPerf.ucsf.edu.*

11 Monday

HOSPITAL NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: Langley Porter Auditorium. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Department personnel representatives call John Frank at 476-3001.

ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR ACADEMIC APPOINTEES: Academic Senate, research administration and faculty review will be explained. N 729. 3-5 p.m.

12 Tuesday

THREE-DAY TB COURSE BEGINS: Sponsored by the Francis J. Curry National Tuberculosis Center, this course covers diagnosis, management and treatment of TB, laboratory testing, infection control, and community control. For location and times, and to pre-register, call 502-4600.

MEDITATION CLASSES: Conducted by Brahma Kumaris Meditation Center and sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. C 417. 12-1 p.m. Free. Call 563-4459.

CAREER MANAGEMENT SERIES: *Developing a Personal/Mentor Network.* HSW 303. 12-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Academic Business Officers Group. Free to ABOG members. Call 476-3394.

LECTURE ON TECHNOLOGY & MODERN MEDICINE: Joel Howell, professor of medicine and medical history, presents *Technology and the Creation of Modern Medicine.* N 217. 4-5 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Department of the History of Health Sciences. Call 476-2766.

SHAMANISM & INDIGENOUS HEALING ARTS: This class is part of an elective titled *Complementary Paths in Healing.* N721. 6-8 p.m. Call Diana Harris at 564-6447.

HOLISTIC HEALTH WORKSHOP: Karuna Kress, director of London's Osho Center for Consciousness in Organizations, presents *From Medication to Meditation,* a workshop that explores a variety of methods to alleviate tension and stress. N 729. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. Tickets are $7 for general public and free to students and seniors. Call 461-4717.

UCSF ORCHESTRA PERFORMS FALL CONCERTS

The featured work, to be performed by faculty, staff and students, is Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5. Millberry Gym. 7:30 p.m. On Nov. 16, the orchestra performs at St. Gregory's Church, 500 De Haro, in San Francisco at 8 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Arts and Performances. Admission is $3 for UCSF staff and MU members and $5 for the general public. Students get in free. Call 476-6761.

13 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Susan Christy, a team building consultant and trainer, presents *You Owe it to Yourself,* a talk about practical perspectives and skills to support self-esteem, competence and confidence. N 225. 12-1 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Public Service Programs. Call 476-4394.

14 Thursday

UC BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING: Laurel Heights campus. Discussion of Stanford merger.

HOSPITALS AUXILIARY JEWELRY SALE: Benefits patients at UCSF Medical Center. Silver jewelry from Mexico and antique Chinese jewelry reproductions will be sold. MCB lobby. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 476-4906.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Arts and Performances presents *A Time to Kill.* Showings at 5:45 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. See Nov. 9 listing for ticket information.

15 Friday

UC BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING: See Nov. 14 listing.

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF PAINFUL EMOTIONS: Richard Pavek, director SHEN Therapy Institute, will discuss the body's automatic response to painful emotions and explain how this physiological response adversely impacts cellular action and interferes with normal organ functioning. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. N 721. 12-1 p.m. A workshop follows this event on Friday, Nov. 18. Call 330-5353.

WINE TASTING BENEFITS FAMILY HOUSE

The families of children receiving cancer treatment at UCSF Medical Center are well served by Family House, which benefits from this annual event sponsored by the Mendocino Winegrowers Alliance. Fort Mason Center. 6-9 p.m. Cost is $35. To register, contact Cliff Berg at 476-8321.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Arts and Performances presents *A Time to Kill.* Showings at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. See Nov. 9 listing for ticket information.

16 Saturday

EMPLOYMENT AFTER RESIDENCY SEMINAR: The California Medical Association's Resident Section will host *How to Find a Job After Residency,* and *How to Negotiate Contracts,* in S 214, 1-3 p.m. This seminar is free to CMA members, $10 for non-members. RSVP to Patty Frisk at 882-5163.

COLE HALL CINEMA: Millberry Arts and Performances presents *A Time to Kill.* Showings at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. See Nov. 9 listing for ticket information.

UCSF ORCHESTRA PERFORMS: See Nov. 12 listing for details.

18 Monday

EATING FOR HEALTH: Beverly Mack, a nutritionist at Mount Zion, will explain how to maintain good dietary habits to improve health and reduce risk of heart disease and other chronic illnesses. Herbst Hall. 10-11:30 a.m. The Healthy Aging Lecture Series is co-sponsored by the UCSF Medical Group and Health Net Seniority Plus. Free. For information and registration call 476-0373.

NEW EYE SURGERY OPTIONS: David Hwang, associate professor of ophthalmology, presents *Better Vision Now,* a discussion of new surgery options for the correction of nearsightedness and astigmatism — from laser surgery to corneal implants. Beckman Vision Center, 8 Kirkham. 6 p.m. Free. Call 476-5021.

19 Tuesday

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: S 214. 8:30-10:30 a.m. Call Lenard Florendo at 476-1073 to schedule.

CAREER MANAGEMENT SERIES: *Informational Interviewing* teaches an effective approach to researching job opportunities. S 1364. 12-1:30 p.m. Sponsored by ABOG. Free to ABOGmembers. Call 476-3394.

VIDEO ABOUT EARLY 1970s WOMEN'S HEALTH GROUP: *Jane: An Abortion Service* is about the Chicago-based women's health group that performed safe illegal abortions from 1969 to 1973. HSW 303. 12-1 p.m. Free. Sponsored by UCSF Women's Resource Center. Call 476-5222.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Ernest Rosenbaum, clinical professor of medicine at UCSF, presents *Will to Live.* Discover the key ingredients which determine will to live: hope, courage, a positive attitude and good medical care. Herbst Hall. 12-1 p.m. Call 476-4394.

20 Wednesday

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Issa Eshima, chief of plastic surgery at UCSF/Mount Zion Medical Center, presents *Cosmetic Surgery: Do You Believe in Magic?* State-of-the-art techniques, from laser to endoscopes will be presented in a slide/lecture format. N 225. 12-1 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Public Service Programs. Call 476-4394.

21 Thursday

TAY-SACHS SCREENING FOR PREGNANT COUPLES: Sponsored by the Northern California Tay-Sachs Disease Prevention Program. For appointments, call 476-4080.

CAMPUS SMOKEOUT

The American Society sponsors this annual event at UCSF. Lobbies of the Parnassus Heights campus. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Respiratory Therapy will provide pulmonary function tests. Call 394-7100.

BROWN BAG LECTURE: Author Patricia Haddock presents *The Secret of Getting Things Done.* How to turbo-charge your life, create unstoppable motivation and get things done. Room 125 at Mission Center. 12-1 p.m. Call 476-4394.

GLADSTONE LECTURE: Gunter Blobel, an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and John D. Rockefeller Jr. Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Cell Biology at Rockefeller University, will present *Protein Traffic Into and Out of the Nucleus.* Carr Auditorium, SFGH. 4 p.m. Call 826-7500.

22 Friday

HOME DESIGN: Frances He will discuss Feng Shui, the ancient Chinese art of designing a home or office to be in harmony with nature to bring happiness, health and prosperity. N 721. 12-1 p.m. Sponsored by the Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences. Call 330-5353.

POETS ON PARNASSUS: Open reading. Toland Hall. 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by UCSF Arts and Performances. Call 476-6761.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

MEDICINE

For more information, call 476-4251.

Stabilization and Management of the Critically Ill Child. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8. San Francisco.

DENTISTRY

For more information, call 476-1101.

Oral Pathology — A Clinical Pathological Board Review Course. Saturday, Nov. 9. $149/$99.

Cosmetic Dentistry: Creating a Beautiful Smile. Saturday, Nov. 16. $149/$99.

Perio Process: A Guide to Clinical Periodontics for the Dental Team. Saturday, Nov. 23. $149/$99.

INFORMATICS CLASSES

The UCSF Library offers the following Informatics Training Seminars. Classes are held in S 165A, Medical Sciences Building (MSB), the ILC Classroom at 222 Library (LIB) and the San Francisco General Hospital Library (SFGH). Call 476-2337 for a complete schedule.

MEDLINE on the World Wide Web. Monday, Nov. 11. 3-5 p.m. (LIB)

The World Wide Web. Tuesday, Nov. 12 (LIB), Wednesday, Nov. 13 (SFGH) and Thursday, Nov. 21 (SFGH).10 a.m.-noon.

Information Evaluation and Management. Wednesday, Nov. 13. 3-5 p.m. (LIB)

FTP Made Easy. Thursday, Nov. 14. 9-11 a.m. (MSB)

Introduction to the Internet. Thursday, Nov. 14 (SFGH) and Monday, Nov. 18 (SFGH), 2-4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22 (SFGH), 10 a.m.- noon.

Nursing Information Resources. Thursday, Nov. 14. 4-6 p.m. (LIB)

Introduction to MEDLINE. Monday, Nov. 18. 10 a.m.-noon. (LIB)

Subject Searching on MEDLINE. Tuesday, Nov. 19. 1-3 p.m. (MSB)

Biological Abstracts Online (BIOSIS). Wednesday, Nov. 20. 3-5 p.m. (SFGH)

COMPUTER TRAINING

Facilities Management offers the following classes for PC users. All classes held at the FM Training Room, 3130 20th Street. Shuttles leave from UCSF/Mount Zion, Parnassus and SFGH. Half-day class is $135, full-day is $215. Call 476-6825.

Windows 1. Wednesday, Nov. 20, 1-4:30 p.m.

Word for Windows I. Thursday Nov. 14 and Tuesday, Nov. 19. 1-4:30 p.m.

Windows 95. Tuesday, Nov. 12, Thursday, Nov. 14 and Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1-4:30 p.m.

Excel for Windows I. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 1-4:30 p.m..

Word for Windows II. Wednesday, Nov. 20, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Windows II. Friday, Nov. 22, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Word for Windows III. Wednesday, Nov. 13 and Tuesday, Nov. 26, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Excel for Windows II. Wednesday, Nov. 13. 1-4:30 p.m.

Excel for Windows III. Friday, Nov. 15, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Word for Windows IV. Tuesday, Nov. 12 and Wednesday, Nov. 27, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

Excel for Windows IV. Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1-4:30 p.m.

Access for Windows II. Thursday Nov. 21, 9 a.m.-3p.m.

DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

Supervising in the Workplace: Administering Consistent and Appropriate Discipline. Thursday, Nov. 14. 8:30 a.m-noon. $40.

Payroll Workshop. Thursday, Nov. 14. 12:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. $40.

Material Management Workshop. Friday, Nov. 15. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. $40.

Solving Real Communication Problems. Wednesday and Friday, Nov. 20 and 22. 9 a.m.-noon. $70.

UCSF Budget Basics. Thursday, Nov. 21. 8:30 a.m.-noon. $40.

Business Writing Basics. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Dec. 3, 5, 10, 12. 2-4:30 p.m. $100.

Medical Terminology: An Introduction. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Dec. 3, 5, 10, 12. 2-4:30 p.m. $100.

Skill Clinic for Trainers. Wednesday and Friday, Dec. 4, 6. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. $90.

General Ledger and Accounting. Wednesday, Dec. 11. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. $50.

Contracts and Grants Workshop. Tuesday, Dec. 17. 1-4 p.m. $40.

Assisting Your Manager: Leading a Work Team. Tuesday, Dec. 17. 8:30 a.m.-noon. $40.

Cost Transfers. Wednesday, Dec. 18. 9 a.m.-noon. $40.

For more information, call 476-4032.

What's Happening

Regular meetings and ongoing support groups

Sunday

Healing Garden Working Days: Second and fourth Sundays. 2-4 p.m. UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center Healing Garden, 2356 Sutter. Call 885-3693.*

Monday

Art for Recovery: Monday and Thursday afternoons. Cancer Center, Infusion Center, second floor. Call Cindy Perlis at 885-7221.

Drop-in Support Group for Women Living with HIV/AIDS: Free lunch and beverages provided. A 45. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call 476-2417 or 476-9289.

Health Professionals in Recovery: For physicians, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, PhDs and others. Anonymous, 12-step emphasis. Meets twice a month. Noon. Call 476-8279.

Friends of Lois Al-Anon Meeting: Closed meeting: for friends & families of alcoholics only. Room 521, MCB. Noon. Call 626-5633.

Breast Cancer Support Group: J 223, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6-7:30 p.m.Pre-registration required. Call Debra Marks 750-3155.

Colorectal Cancer Support: Second and fourth Mondays. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8:00 p.m. Call 885-7585.*

Melanoma Support Groups: Meets first and third Mondays for patients and family members. Room 114, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 6:30-8:30 p.m. 885-7585*

AIDS Health Project Meditation & Self-Hypnosis Workshop: Weekly discussion group for anyone dealing with HIV or AIDS in themselves or others. Gazebo Room, Davies Medical Center 7-9 p.m. Call 476-3902.*

Tuesday

SFGH Circle of Sisters: Monthly networking forum for black women working and studying at UCSF/SFGH. Call 206-8314.

UCSF Staff Council Meeting: Third Tuesdays. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. S 609. Call 476-9977.

MHONA: For victims of trauma with cross disabilities. Ages 15 & over. A 222, LPPI. 10 a.m.-noon. Helpline at 759-7923 provided daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m.*

Exercise & Physiology Class for Cancer Patients & Survivors: Mount Zion Cardiac Care Gymnasium. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Pre-registration required. Call 885-3693.*

Institute of Healing Meditation Class: Every second, third and fourth Tuesday. 12-1 p.m.C 417. Call 563-4459.

Institute of Healing Arts and Sciences Meditation Class: Tuesdays. Noon-1 p.m. Call 563-4459 for location.*

Campus Amnesty International Meeting: First Tuesdays. MU 111W. Noon-1 p.m. Call 566-8406.*

Gospel Choir Rehearsal at UCSF: Weekly at MCB. Noon. Call 502-0106.*

Parkinson's Disease Education & Support Group: For people with Parkinson's & their caregivers. Third Tuesdays. Christ Church, Lutheran, 1090 Quintara (at 20th Ave.). 2-4 p.m. Call 476-9276.*

Parnassus Players: UCSF's theater group meets first Tuesday at Millberry Union Conference Center. Times vary. Call 921-3231.*

Nurses' Pain Association Meeting: Second Tuesdays. C 254. 5:30-7:30 p.m.*

Women's Psychotherapy Group: Langley Porter. 6:00-7:30 p.m. For eligibility requirements and registration call Elaine 931-1958.

Brain Tumor Support Group: First Tuesdays. C 130. 7:30-9 p.m. Call 284-0208.*

Wednesday

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Association at UCSF Meeting: Second Wednesdays. Members of the Chancellor's Committee on Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Issues attend. Call 282-9650.

Support Group for Family/Friends of Those with Mental Illness: For those interested in psychiatric disorders and treatments. Call Laura Deering-Mayclin at 476-7394.*

Latin American Campus Association Meeting: Second Wednesdays. HSW 508. Noon. Call Lucia DeLeon at 476-2010.

Latin Women Coalition: For Latina faculty, staff and students. Noon-1 p.m. Call 476-7117.*

Parnasus Al-Anon Meeting: For friends and families of alcoholics. Observers welcome. C 417. Noon-1 p.m. Call 626-5633.*

Tai Chi Classes: Staff welcome. UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center. Healing Garden, 2356 Sutter. 12-1p.m. 885-3693.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting: Closed meeting: Conference Room 3, first floor, MCB. 12:05 p.m. Call 621-1326.

MHONA: For victims of trauma with cross disabilties. Ages 15 & over. Two locations & times: A 222, LPPI, 1-3 p.m., and N 517, 7-10 p.m. Helpline also provided daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. at 759-7923.*

Trauma/Injury Support Group: First and third Wednesdays. SFGH Library, Bldg. 30, room 3101. 2:30-4 p.m. Call Laurie Barkin at 206-8402 or Dr. Yigal Ben-Haim at 753-1000.

Incest Survivor Support Group for Women : Must attend for one year. 5:30- 7 p.m. For screening, call 476-7526 or 476-7085.

San Francisco City Chorus Rehearsal: 7 p.m. Call 765-SONG.

Eating Disorders Support Group: Open to anyone dealing with an eating disorder in themselves or others. Meets first and third Tuesdays. M 688. 7-8:30 p.m. Call 332-3425.*

Co-Dependents Anonymous Meeting: 12-step program for people with dysfunctional relationships. A119, LPPI. 8-9:30 p.m. Call 432-3529.*

Thursday

AWAKE Meeting: Alert, Well And Keeping Energetic is a support and education group for people with sleep apnea and their families. Third Thursdays. Bring CPAP equipment for check-up. Call 885-7886.*

Gospel Choir Rehearsal at UCSF: Weekly rehearsals at Parnassus. Noon. Call 502-0106.*

Head & Neck Cancer Surgery Support Groups: Separate groups for patients and families meet on second and fourth Thursdays. J 221, UCSF/Mount Zion Cancer Center, 2356 Sutter. 1-2 p.m. Call first 885-7623.*

Association of Clinical Research Nurses Meeting: Meets every other month, alternating between UCSF and Stanford. 5:45-7:30 p.m. Call 476-0683.*

Support Group for Women Living with Life-Altering Illness: Alternate Thursdays. 6-8 p.m. Call 775-2854 to pre-register.*

Friday

Circle of Sisters: Networking forum for black women working and studying at UCSF. Second and third Fridays. Noon-1 p.m. Call 502-5666.

Weight Watchers Meeting: S 159. Noon-12:45 p.m. Call 476-6148 or 476-6241.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting: Closed meeting: C 417. 12:10-1 p.m. Call 621-1326.*

Lakeside Senior Medical Center Caregiver Support Group: First Fridays. $10 per meeting. 2501 Ocean Ave. at Junipero Serra. 2-4 p.m. Call 986-2305.

For information on 12-step and support groups call the Bay Area Self-Help Center at 772-4357 or the Mental Health Association of San Francisco at 882-6230.*

*OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Newsbreak deadline

Tuesday, Nov. 12 is the deadline for items to be listed in the next calendar, which covers Nov. 23-Dec. 20, 1996 (four weeks). Complete information must be received in our office in writing by 11 a.m. on that Tuesday. Send information for calendar items to Brad Foss at (bfoss@itsa.ucsf.edu), mail it to Box 0462, send a fax to 476-3541, bring it to UCSF/Laurel Heights, 3333 California St., Suite 103 or call 476-3163. To submit an article for Newsbreak/ Medsounds send email to Lisa Cisneros at (cisnero@itsa.ucsf.edu), or fax her at 476-3541.

Breast cancer screenings

Women can have low-cost mammograms – X-rays to screen for breast cancer – from a mobile van that travels to convenient locations in the Bay Area.Women need the approval of their physician, in addition to their doctor's full name, address (including room number & zip code) and phone number to assure that results are mailed promptly. The procedure takes approximately 20 minutes and costs $65. Call 476-2193 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to make an appointment.* Listed below are dates when the van will be at UCSF locations. Call 476-2193 for a full schedule.

- Monday, Nov. 18-Thursday, Nov. 21: UCSF/Laurel Hgts. at 3333 California St.
- Friday, Nov. 22: UCSF/Parnassus at Medical Center Way.
- Friday, Dec. 6: UCSF/Parnassus at Medical Center Way.

UPCOMING EVENTS

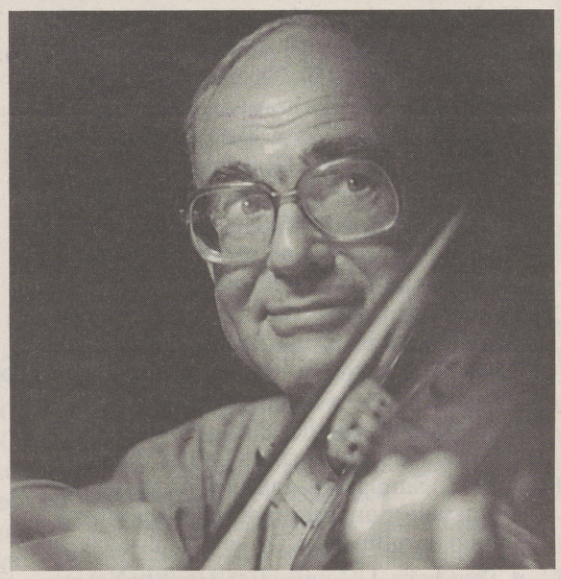
Elder care fair

The annual UCSF Elder Care Informational Fair is on Wednesday, Nov. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Medical Sciences Building lobby. The fair is for faculty, students and staff with an aging parent or spouse. Attendees will receive information on various elder day care programs, long-term care facilities, elder care resources, hospice information, and the UCSF Elder Care Support Group and Class which begins January, 1997. The fair is sponsored by the Child and Elder Care Referral Service. For additional information, call Jane Mahakian at 476-2692.

How to survive the wild

A "Wilderness Medicine" seminar will be presented by Outdoors Unlimited on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The seminar will give the latest information on how to handle a variety of wilderness hazards and medical problems. Altitude illnesses, hypothermia and frostbite, fractures and dislocations, and head and spinal injuries will be discussed. The program is a fund-raiser for the Wilderness Medical Society, an international organization for research and education in wilderness medicine. The cost is $40. To register, send a check (payable to UC Regents) to Wilderness Medicine Seminar, Outdoors Unlimited, Box 0234A, UCSF, San Francisco, CA, 94143. For the location of the seminar and more information, call Bobbie Foster at 476-0417.

Ostwald's life to be honored with music



Peter Ostwald

The life of Peter Ostwald, a distinguished former member of the department of psychiatry at UCSF, will be remembered Tuesday, Nov. 26 with a concert by UCSF's Health Program for Performing Artists, which he founded. Paul Hersh on piano, Ian Swenson on violin, Julian Hersh on cello, and Lise Deschamps Ostwald on piano will perform at the Laurel Heights Conference Center at 7:30 p.m. A reception will follow.

Ostwald died May 25, 1996. He authored biographies on German composer Robert Schumann, titled "Schumann: The Inner Voice of a Musical Genius" and one on Vaslav Nijinsky, titled "Vaslav Nijinsky: A Leap into Madness." Due to be published this year is Ostwald's biography of Canadian pianist Glenn Gould. For more information, call 476-7198.

Women's health forum

A practical update on a full range of common but controversial issues in women's health will be the focus of "Controversies in Women's Health," Thursday and Friday, Dec. 5 and 6 at The Mark Hopkins Inter-Continental Hotel. Topics to be covered include social aspects of women's health, including reproductive rights, domestic violence and the abuse of cosmetic surgery.

Sponsored by the Office of Continuing Medical Education at UCSF, this course is presented by the division of general internal medicine, the department of medicine, and the department of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive sciences. For information and registration, call 476-5208.

Tomkins lecture & concert

The 21st Annual Gordon Tomkins Lecture and Concert will be held in Cole Hall on Friday, Dec. 6, beginning at 3 p.m. Richard Dawkins, the Charles Simonyi Chair of Public Understanding of Science at Oxford University, will present "Animals as Models of Their World." At the reception that follows, the Stanford String Quartet will perform music by Schubert and Haydn.

Dawkins has written several books including "The Selfish Gene," "The Extended Phenotype," and "River Out of Eden." His prizes and awards include the Royal Society of Literature Prize and the Los Angeles Times Literary Prize. For more information, call Kathleen Raeses at 502-5141.

Course teaches how to stabilize young patients

UCSF's division of pediatric critical care medicine, along with the division of critical care medicine of the Children's Hospital of Oakland, will present a course titled "Stabilization and Management of the Critically Ill Child" on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7 and 8 at The Mark Hopkins Hotel.

The focus of the presentation is the initial management and stabilization of patients within the context of current understandings of pediatric pathophysiology and intensive care. The program chairs are Scott Soifer, professor of pediatrics and director of the division of pediatric critical care medicine, and Timothy Yeh, clinical professor of pediatrics at UCSF and director of the division of critical care medicine at Children's Hospital of Oakland. Sponsored by the UCSF Office of Continuing Education, the course is $250 for physicians, $175 for nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Advance registration is required. For more information, call 476-5808.

Infectious disease course

The 19th Annual Infectious Diseases in Clinical Practice, presented by the division of infectious diseases, San Francisco General Hospital and the UCSF department of medicine, will be held at the Snowmass Convention Center in Snowmass, Colorado, January 26 through 31.

The six-day agenda is designed to meet the needs of all health care professionals through discussion of diagnosis, management and prevention of common outpatient infectious disease problems, emerging pathogens in infectious diseases such as Lyme disease and ehrlichiosis, and the management of HIV-infected patients in an outpatient setting.

Program chairs are Henry F. Chambers III, associate professor of medicine and chief of the division of infectious diseases at SFGH, B. Joseph Guglielmo, professor of clinical pharmacy at UCSF, and Richard Jacobs, clinical professor of medicine and infectious diseases and director of medical subspecialty clinics at UCSF. The fee is $495 for physicians and $395 for allied health professionals. The event is sponsored by the Office of Continuing Medical Education at UCSF. For registration and more information, call 476-5808 or 476-5208.

Campaign introduces Purlieus Wastenot as spokesperson

Meet Purlieus Wastenot. That's the winning entry submitted by Andrea Gray of the Material Services Department, in the contest to name the campaign spokesperson for UCSF's water and energy awareness campaign.

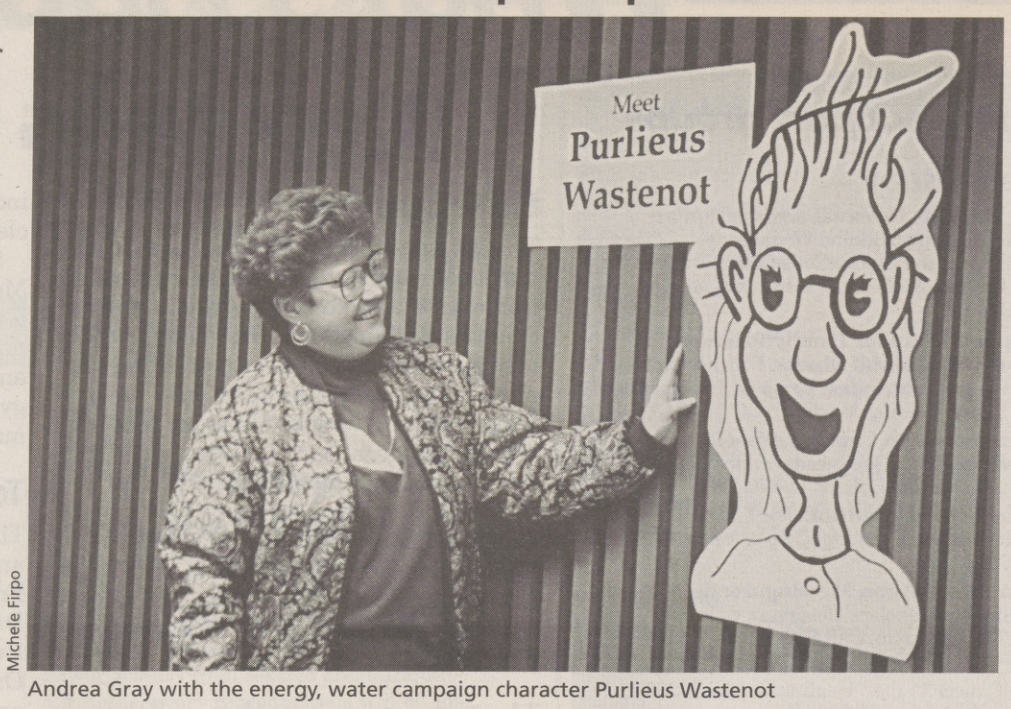
Gray said "purlieus" is a favorite word of Scrabble buffs. "When I looked up the word in the dictionary, I found that it also means environment. Then I added wastenot, and I had a name — Purlieus Wastenot," she said.

For her efforts, Gray received a $25 gift certificate to Macy's and a $20 gift certificate to P.J.'s Oyster Bed, both courtesy of EMPACT! and a starter kit for efficient home lighting provided by the UCSF Facilities Management Department.

Purlieus will be working with a steering committee to help make UCSF faculty, staff and students more aware of the critical need to conserve water and energy and provide helpful tips to meet that goal.

Faculty members of the committee were selected through the Academic Senate, and other members were recommended by the Facilities Management Advisory Board. Members include Dick Chan, hospital building management; Fran DeNoto, Metabolic Research Unit; Katy Irwin, Mission Center Building Management; Gail Mametsuka, EMPACT!; Sharon Kelly, School of Medicine Dean's Office; Wolfgang Sadée, School of Pharmacy; Lynda Swanson, Campus Planning; Diana Taylor, Family Health Nursing; Ruth Weiller, Chancellor's Office; Nooshan Razani, first-year student, School of Medicine; and Hieu Truong, second-year student, School of Medicine.

For more information on the campaign call 502-8350 or email at hydrowatt@fm.ucsf.edu.



Michele Firpo

Andrea Gray with the energy, water campaign character Purlieus Wastenot

Nominate now for Advancement of Women Award

Nominations are now being sought for the 1997 Chancellor's Awards for the Advancement of Women.

This annual award recognizes one faculty/academic member, one staff member and one student/resident/post doc for their contributions to the advancement of women at UCSF. Each recipient will receive $1,000. Nomination forms are available in the Chancellor's Office, S 126, and must be returned to that office no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3.

Many members of the campus community are eligible for this award. Nominate one or more people who work to improve the status of women on campus or whose research, teaching or patient care is devoted to women's health. For more information about this award, call Ruth Weiller at 476-4223 or email her at (rweiller@chanoff.ucsf.edu).

CRIME ALERT

Police investigate racist graffitti on campus

During the month of October, UCSF police investigated several reports of ethnic slurs and racist comments scrawled on the walls of a stairwell of the Medical Sciences Building and in a unisex bathroom in Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute.

Defacing University property could carry a six-month prison sentence and a $500 fine, according to California Penal Code.

UCSF police say the common theme of the graffiti was the controversial Nov. 5 California ballot initiative Proposition 209, also known as the California Civil Rights Initiative, which was soundly affirmed by voters Tuesday.

Police have no suspects nor witnesses to the crimes.

To report a non-emergency to police, call 476-1414. In an emergency, call 476-6911. UCSF employees based at SFGH should call 206-8063 in an emergency.

Scholar found dead

An international post-doctoral scholar of biochemistry was found dead near the research towers behind the Medical Sciences Building on the morning of Monday, Nov. 4. It appears the woman fell or jumped from the building. Although UCSF police do not suspect foul play, investigations into the circumstances surrounding the death are ongoing. She was 28 years old.

UC posts changes to benefit plans for open enrollment

Eligible UCSF faculty and staff have the opportunity to change their enrollment in UC-sponsored medical, dental, vision and legal plans during the open enrollment period, which lasts until Sunday, Nov. 24.

Employees also may change Dependent Care Assistance Program (Depcare) and the Tax Savings on Insurance Premiums (TIP) program. The next open enrollment meetings will be held today in Toland Hall; Monday, Nov. 11 in N 217; Wednesday, Nov. 13 at Mission Center Building, Room 125; Thursday, Nov. 14 at the VAMC Auditorium (Building 7) and Tuesday, Nov. 19 in Toland Hall. All meetings will be held from noon to 1 p.m., except for the last session, which will be held from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

By now faculty and staff should have received the UC Benefits mailing of open enrollment materials at home. UC Benefits maintains an updated site on the Web at (http://www.ucop.edu/bencom).

Listed below are some key changes:

- Foundation Health Plan will no longer be contracting with UC as of January 1997. Employees enrolled in that plan must elect another medical plan during open enrollment.
- This year, UC will offer Health Net at no monthly cost to employees, although co-payments still apply.
- Kaiser South eliminates the copayment for outpatient immunizations recently approved by the FDA and there will be no employee monthly cost for family coverage of Kaiser North enrollees.
- PacifiCare enrollees will pay monthly costs for this plan in 1997. Coverage will cost 48 cents for singles, 99 cents for two parties and $1.35 for families.
- The Vision Service Plan's eligibility period for eye exams and lenses will change from any 12-month period of continuous care to a calendar year. Members will be eligible to receive frames every other calendar year.
- Prudential will no longer be the carrier for disability insurance. After going out to bid, Liberty Mutual will now be the provider for any disabilities after Jan. 1, 1997. A 90-day waiting period will be reinstated as opposed to giving employees choices of 30 days or 180 days.
- After November 1996, the Legal Expense plan will not be automatically available for new members during open enrollment every year. For 1997, the monthly rates will be $9.90 for single coverage and $15.20 for family coverage.
- The 403B and UCRP retirement plans will be in transition throughout the year based upon legislation signed by President Clinton in August 1996. Dates for these revisions vary widely and University employees will receive more information as details become available and as decisions are reached about the implementation dates.

MEDICAL CALL BOARD

Sports injury pain

Doctors from the Pain Clinical Research Center (PCRC) at UCSF are recruiting patients for the first US clinical trial to test the effectiveness of an anti-inflammatory patch for the treatment of minor sports injuries.

Volunteer subjects are needed for this, the first US study to evaluate the effectivness of the diclofenac patch, which has been used extensively with success in Europe and Japan. The study takes two weeks and requires participants to make a total of four visits to the PCRC at 2233 Post St., Suite 104.

Current treatment for minor sports injury generally consists of resting, using ace bandages and taking oral non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug medications such as ibuprofen. In this placebo-controlled trial, medication is administered through a non-woven, soft, stretchy patch. Participants will be reimbursed for visits and two telephone interviews. For more information, call Erika Friedman, research coordinator, at 476-0418.

Body movements

The department of orthopaedic surgery at UCSF and SFGH is seeking men and women over 70 years old to participate in a study investigating body movements while sitting. Experiments will require subjects to undergo measures of strength and balance and to sit on chairs of varying height.

Subjects must meet the following criteria: be able to read English; be able to sit and stand independently and walk a distance of 15 feet (with or without the use of a cane); have no neurological disease; have no amputations, severe arthritis or other debilitating orthopaedic problems; and be able to read newspaper print from a distance of two feet (with or without corrective lenses.)

Experiments will be conducted at the Biomechanics Laboratory at SFGH and are expected to take three to four hours. Subjects will be paid $10 per hour. Interested people should contact James Chiu, Barbara Jordan or Steve Robinovitch at the Biomechanics Laboratory at 206-6865 to sign up.

Alzheimer's disease, depression

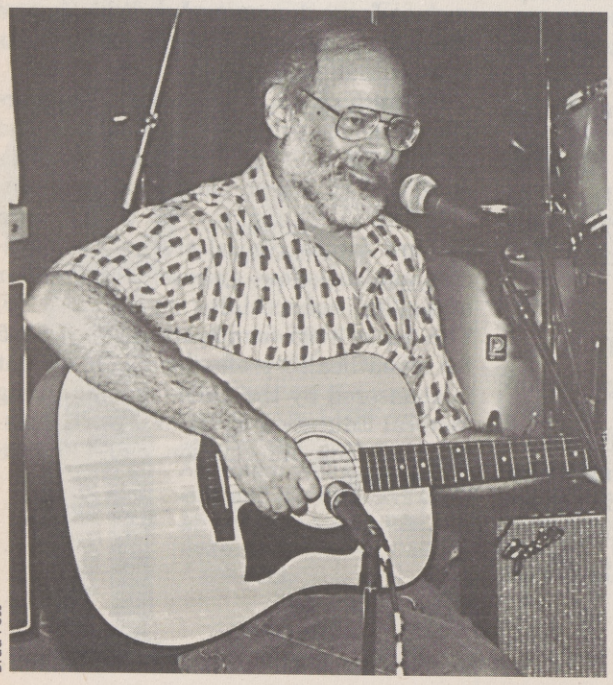
UCSF's Center for Clinical and Aging Services Research (CCASR) is conducting two new outpatient studies.

One study is for persons 65 years or older who suffer from major depression, have had symptoms for at least one month before joining the study, and are not taking any other antidepressant drugs. Participants will be randomly assigned to take either Effexor, Prozac or a placebo. Participants will receive free medical tests and psychological evaluations relating to study procedures.

The second study is for persons who are 41 years or older and have dementia due to Alzheimer's Disease or a previous stroke. The drug being tested, Propentofylline, will be given to participants to determine if it is helpful in improving nerve cell function in the brain. Propentofylline is not a cure for either disorder, but may be helpful in alleviating symptoms.

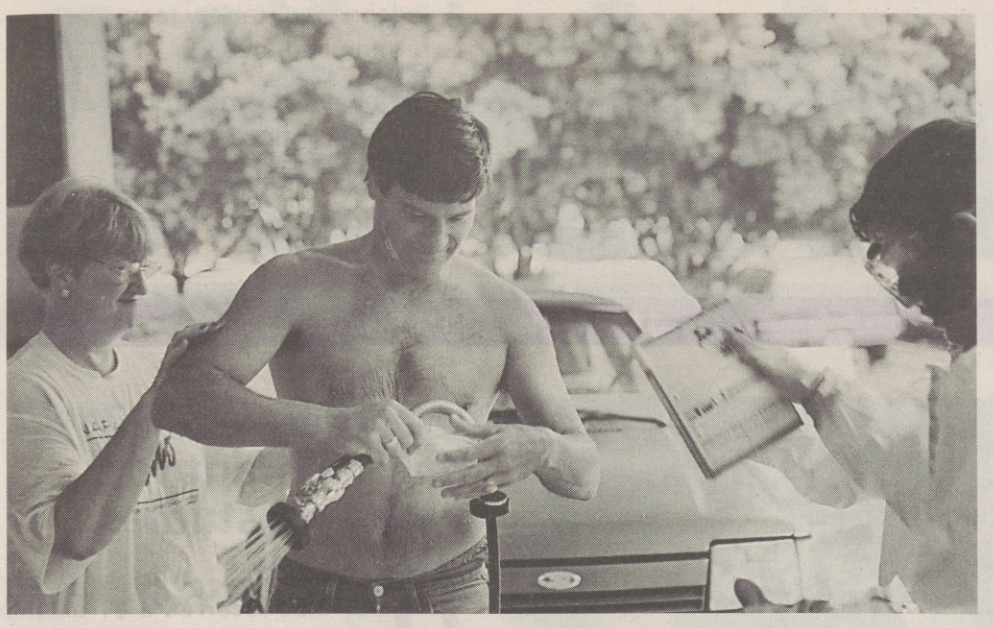
Participants will be closely monitored in each study and will be required to make regular visits to Lakeside Senior Medical Center. Medical tests or drugs used in the studies are free to participants. For more information about either study, call Meryl Brod at 386-3100.

Herskowitz sings tribute to biochemists


Brad Foss

One of several acts to perform at the recent UCSF talent show, Ira Herskowitz, chair of the department of biochemistry and biology in the School of Medicine, performed his humorously adapted rendition of the Moody Blues' song "Nights in White Satin," which he calls "Nights in the Cold Room," a tribute to all biochemists. Sponsored by UCSF Arts & Performances with EMPACT! and ASUC, the show raised funds for the sound system for the Cole Hall Cinema on the Parnassus campus.

Medsounds



Lisa Cisneros

Rainy day showers

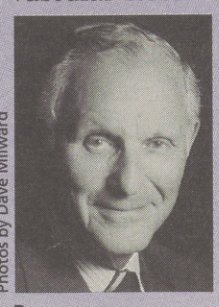
On a cold, rainy day, co-chairs of the UCSF Medical Center Disaster Committee, Pete Balestreri, director of security, and Kathy Lenihan, administrative nurse, test the hazardous materials shower recently installed outside the Emergency Department during a disaster drill on Parnassus. It was the first time staff ever tried the shower to be used in emergencies to wash off toxic substances.

Mount Zion Alumni Day honors two

Cardiologist Ray Rosenman is the 1996 UCSF/Mount Zion Distinguished Alumnus while neurosurgeon Arthur Lyons is this year's Outstanding Service Award winner.

The awards were made during the 12th annual Alumni Day banquet at Lake Merced Golf and Country Club on Oct. 5.

Rosenman retired from UCSF/Mount Zion in 1991, after a 41-year association with the medical center. He served as associate director of the Harold Brunn Institute for Cardiovascular Research, and devoted his time both to research and clinical practice of internal medicine and cardiology during his tenure. Rosenman also served as associate chief of the department of medicine.

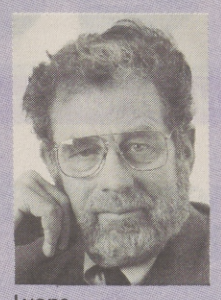


Photos by Dave Milward

Rosenman

Best known for his pioneering work on the Type A Behavior Pattern, Rosenman is also recognized for his studies on twins and on cholesterol metabolism.

Longtime leader in the medical community of Mount Zion and San Francisco, Arthur Lyons received the Outstanding Service Award. Lyons has served as chief of the Department of Neurosciences at the medical center and played an active role in the hospital's integration with UCSF. He has maintained his private practice in San Francisco since 1964, when he joined the staff at Mount Zion.



Lyons

As president of the San Francisco Medical Society, Lyons led the society's response to the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. He is currently a delegate to the California Medical Society.

The annual banquet provided a chance for medical, dental and nursing alumni of UCSF/Mount Zion to gather, reminisce and appreciate the achievement of their peers. About 120 alumni attended the event. Providing music for the evening was the San Francisco Music Company, a modern jazz and blues band featuring singer Fran Fosten and UCSF faculty members John Conte on piano, Daniel Santi on trumpet, and Philip Weinstein on the drums.

Hospitals Auxiliary hosts jewelry sale

The Hospitals Auxiliary Benefit Jewelry Sale will be held Thursday and Friday, Nov. 14 and 15, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Medical Sciences Lobby.

On sale at wholesale prices are fabulous Taxco sterling silver designs personally selected by Hi-Ho Silver for the campus community. In addition, jewelry and accessories by Fumiko Ukai will be available for purchase. Ukai specializes in originals and reproductions of Chinese court pieces made into necklaces. Ukai's signature piece is the "Pi," pronounced "bee," the Chinese symbol of heaven or universe. A student of Chinese jewelry history for many years, Fumiko reproduces Mandarin designs and brings them to UCSF along with original creations of her own, specially selected for this sale. She combines unusual and rare collector beads, such as carved fruit pits, agate, petrified oak, serpentine, cicada, and coral, as well as jade and silver. Proceeds benefit UCSF patients and their families.

Pet therapy (from page 8)

Stephen Berg, rambled into his room. A wide grin came over the 13-year-old boy like a wave, and as his father, Zach, flopped the dog's ears onto Justin's toes, his sullenness washed away with laughter.

"It's been tough for us," Zach said of his son's rheumatic disorder. Unable to go in-line skating or see his pet parakeet, Justin said he appreciates the SPCA volunteers who share their pets with him. Justin has been visited by two other dogs and a guinea pig since arriving at UCSF.

"I've always wanted a dog," he said. "They're really playful."

His father added, "We really look forward to the dogs. It warms his (Justin) heart to see the animals."

Though there is evidence that blood pressure, pulse and stress levels can be improved in the presence of animals, health care workers for the most part laud the emotional efficacy of these visits, which uplift the mood of patients, their families and the hospital staff.

"When we're taking the animals around, the nurses really love it. They'll say, 'This really brightened up my day.' If the nurses are feeling better, they're going to be brighter and cheerier for the kids," says Joan Kazerounian, child life specialist at UCSF.

Creating a home environment for patients, Kazerounian says, is important to making them feel safe around each other as well as with hospital staff. "For kids who are immobile, it's very much a nurturing thing when they're talking with and touching the animals," she says. "Sometimes it allows conversation between us and the kids for them to gain an understanding of why they're here."

Perhaps the most ardent advocate of animal visitation is Frank Burtnett, the SPCA's animal therapy specialist. The "tactile" and "non-judgmental" interaction between humans and animals is "a model for trust and affection," Burtnett says. He recounted an array of noteworthy animal visits including the story of an 18-year-old boy who was very confident and a star athlete, before an accident left him paralyzed from the neck down. Totally despondent among the people around him, it was only after he made contact with reptiles that he opened up to the world again.

Most of the animals — dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, snakes and turtles alike — belong to SPCA volunteers, who visit hospitals and make house calls to AIDS and cancer patients. The SPCA conducts health and behavior screenings on all the animals, and trains the volunteers.

"The animal reacts to the person's essence" and not to any physical ailments they may have, Burtnett says.

"That's a wonderful lesson we could learn from this," says Betty Cormack, a nurse at Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute, who incorporates discussion of animal-assisted therapy in a nursing course she teaches at the University of San Francisco. "The confidence in it as an intervention technique is really growing. We've seen the benefits psychologically and physiologically. It's a great way to reach out to people who are fearful and withdrawn."

As Abigail received her last round of hugs for the evening, a sense of excitement lingered in the hospital halls. "I've seen kids smile tonight, that I haven't seen smile before," says Kim Kuehnert, a child life intern.

Studies (from page 8)

bleeding from four study sites across the country, including UCSF, and begin treatment with three months of medical management. After the initial three months, 300 women who do not respond adequately to medical therapy will be invited to join a randomized study, in which some will receive enhanced medical therapy and some will undergo hysterectomy. The women will be tested for differences in function and well-being and in other quality-of-life, clinical and economic outcomes.

Eighty of the women assigned to the hysterectomy group will further be randomized to either receive a total hysterectomy, or a partial hysterectomy that leaves the cervix intact, and then will be tested for differences in sexual function and other outcomes, says study principal investigator Stephen B. Hulley, professor and chair of the UCSF Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

The study will also look at patient and provider factors that predict subsequent hysterectomy within the medical group, and two-year quality-of-life, clinical and economic outcomes within the medical and surgical treatment groups.

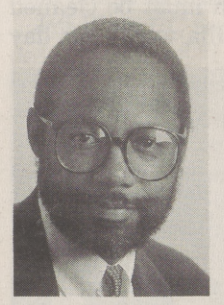
"Because there are no randomized trials comparing medical treatment with hysterectomy, we cannot adequately advise patients on the likely outcomes of these two approaches. There are also no randomized trials comparing total and partial hysterectomy," says principal investigator at the UCSF study site Lee Learman, UCSF assistant professor of ob/gyn and reproductive sciences.

"This study will answer many of the important questions regarding use of hysterectomy in the United States and help women make informed decisions about which approach is best for them," Hulley says.

The second major study focuses on the management of four non-cancerous uterine conditions commonly treated by hysterectomy: fibroids, abnormal uterine bleeding, chronic pelvic pain/endometriosis, and uterine prolapse.

UCSF researchers hope to identify key factors that drive patient and provider decisions about hysterectomy versus other management approaches for these conditions, as well as assess the cost of illness and the cost-effectiveness of all the treatment choices.

"Ultimately, knowledge gained from the study will aid in the formulation of hysterectomy guidelines that are based on patient preferences, clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness," says study co-principal investigator Miriam Kupperman, UCSF assistant professor of ob/gyn and reproductive sciences. "In addition, we will use this information to develop decision-assisting tools that incorporate patient preferences and clinical effectiveness."



Washington

Researchers will also gather direct and indirect costs of the four conditions, including both the direct costs of care and the indirect costs of work loss associated with experiencing symptoms or obtaining care.

Kerr (from page 8)

Varmus, NIH director. "Secretary Shalala has assembled an outstanding group of professionals to add to the hospital's ability to carry out that mission."

Director of the UCSF Medical Center for 19 years, Kerr has been active in multiple state and national health service organizations including the Board of Trustees of the California Hospital Association and the Hospital Council of Northern California. He recently served as Chairman of the Council of Teaching Hospitals of the Association of American Medical Colleges. Last year, Kerr was elected to the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences.

Kerr graduated from Loyola University in Chicago and received a master's degree in Hospital Administration from the University of Minnesota. Before joining the staff at UCSF in 1970, he was assistant to the commissioner for the New York City Health and Hospitals Corp.

Changing how the 43-year-old, 350-bed NIH Clinical Center is governed topped the list of improvements for the hospital suggested by a team of reviewers appointed by Shalala in 1995. Another major recommendation was for a new facility for the hospital and research laboratories. The centerpiece of the NIH's 1997 budget is the $90 million down payment on a $310 million Clinical Research Center.

Also named to the board from outside the NIH are: J. Claude Bennett, president of the University of Alabama at Birmingham; Stephen C. Schimpff, executive vice president of the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore; Helen L. Smits, president and medical director of HealthRight Inc. in Meriden, Conn.; and Ellen M. Zane, network president of Partners in HealthCare System Inc. in Boston.

UCSF
Medsounds

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INSIDE

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Shalala names Kerr to national board of experts

Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala has named Bill Kerr, director of the UCSF Medical Center, to a national board that will oversee management of the hospital at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland.

Shalala tapped physicians, scientists and health care managers from some of the nation's top hospitals and from across the NIH to serve on the Board of Governors of the Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center.

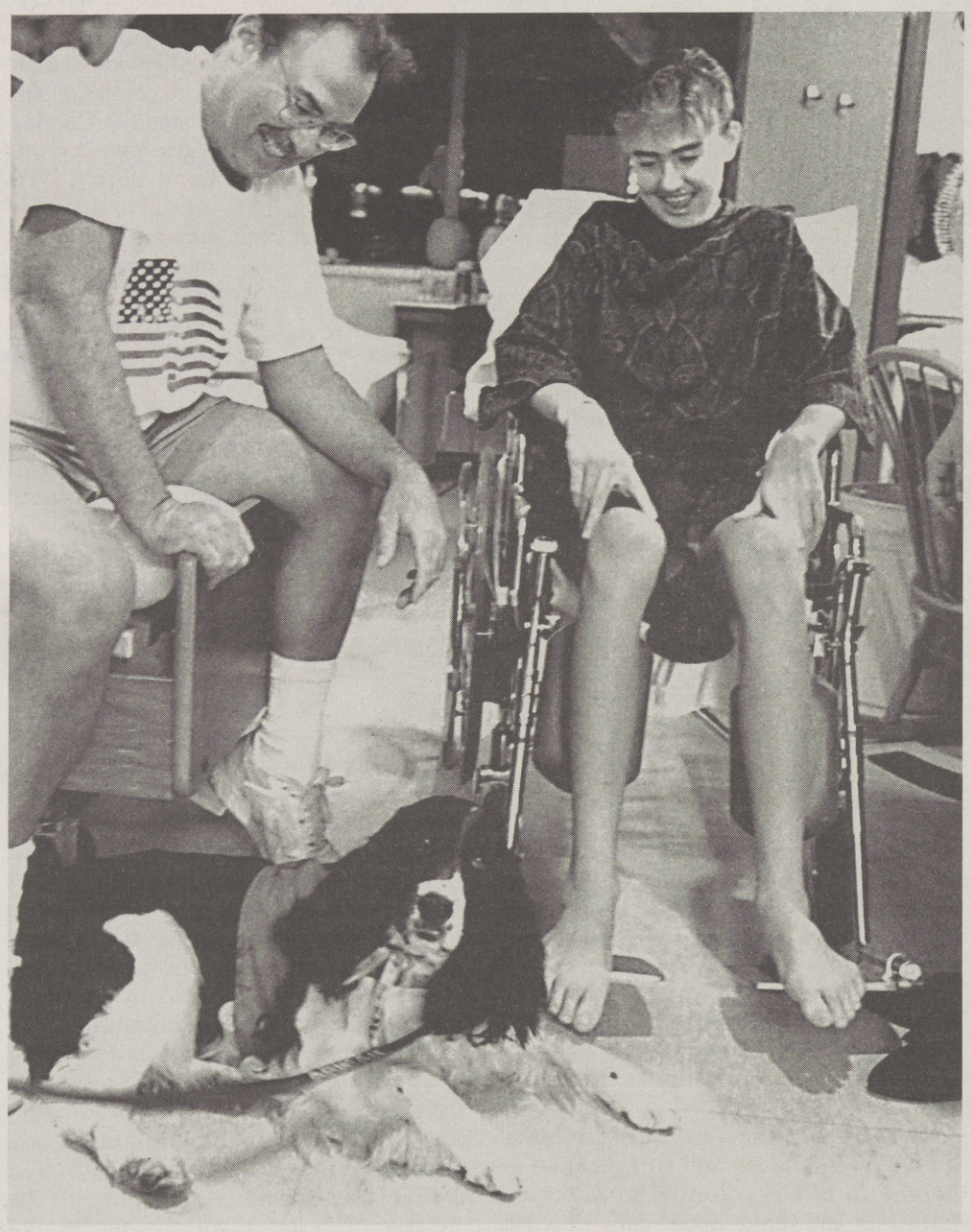
Kerr

"The Clinical Center at NIH is the country's premier medical research facility," says Shalala. "The board's experience and expertise will enhance the hospital's ability to support research that stands to enhance the lives and health of each American."

John J. Finan Jr., president and chief executive officer of the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System in Baton Rouge, will chair the 17-member board.

"The National Institutes of Health depends on the Clinical Center to provide an efficient, responsive environment for its conduct of clinical research," adds Harold

(See **Kerr** on page 7)


Chris T. Anderson

Justin Scott and his father, Zach, visit with their new four-legged friend Abigail in Moffitt Hospital

Patients respond well to pet therapy

By BRAD FOSS

As Abigail stepped onto the sixth floor of Moffitt Hospital, her curly hair stylishly draped over her long torso, doctors and nurses paused to catch a glimpse. Some even approached Abigail to say hello as she bathed in the attention. She is calm and unassuming, and exactly the reason hospitalized children and their parents could do little but smile in awe of her warmth.

Abigail, a three-year-old cocker spaniel, represents the raison d'être of a popular program at the UCSF Medical Center that uses animals to ease the minds and souls of young and old patients courtesy of the San Francisco Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (SPCA).

It was Justin Scott's 20th evening at Moffitt when Abigail, and her owner

(See **Pet therapy** on page 7)

UCSF receives $7 million grant for women's studies

By REBECCA HIGBEE

UCSF has received a $7 million grant to study treatment decisions among women who have non-cancerous uterine conditions and to compare health outcomes for women who have a hysterectomy with those who receive non-surgical treatment.

The women will be recruited from UCSF clinics and other sites.

In the US, nearly 600,000 women each year have hysterectomies, making it the second most common major surgical procedure after Cesarean. By the age of 60, 37 percent of all American women have undergone hysterectomy, and nearly 90 percent of all hysterectomies are done in women with non-cancerous conditions, such as endometriosis, fibroids, uterine prolapse and pelvic pain.

"In the majority of women, the goal of surgery is to control uterine bleeding or pelvic pain," says A. Eugene Washington, professor and chair of the UCSF Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, and study chair of the grant.

"However, hysterectomy has not been shown to be more effective and safer than medical management in controlling these symptoms," he adds.

To explore hysterectomy-related issues regarding decision making and health outcomes, the Department of Health and Human Services' Agency for Health Care Policy and Research has funded two studies to be conducted by UCSF faculty in the department of epidemiology and biostatistics, the department of ob/gyn and reproductive science, and the Institute for Health Policy Studies.

In one study, UCSF investigators will conduct a randomized clinical trial comparing medical versus surgical treatment for abnormal uterine bleeding in premenopausal women with or without co-existing fibroids.

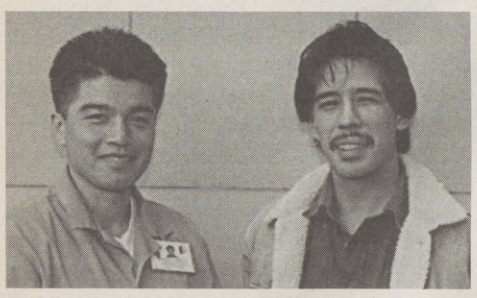
The study will recruit 2,700 premenopausal women with abnormal

(See **Studies** on page 7)

Janitors Guerrero, Padilla as reliable as day and night

Flexibility and responsibility are of the essence to Frank Guerrero and Don Padilla, custodians at the UCSF Medical Center.

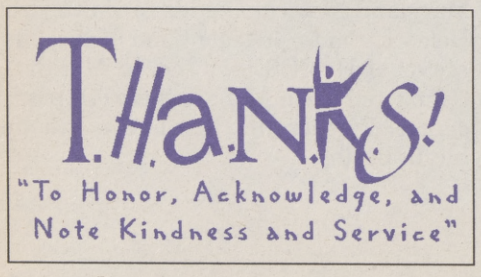
Both must juggle their schedules to accommodate the busy and unpredictable flow of patients in and out of hospital rooms and labs, which must be cleaned around the clock. Padilla works the day


Padilla and Guererro

shift, while Guerrero maintains hospital cleanliness until midnight.

Lab technicians at the catheter laboratory on the 12th and 13th floors of Moffitt hospital, as well as the director of Environmental Services, Mathias Chaplin, have praised Guerrero and Padilla through the Medical Center's employee recognition program.

"The lab has procedures going on back to back and because of that, there's only a small window of opportunity to get in there in clean," Chaplin explains. "So not only do Frank and Don have limited time, but their job must be thorough for the next patient."



High-risk babies born in top level NICUs better able to survive

By CORINNA KAARLELA

A medical research team has found that not only is survival of "high risk" newborns significantly improved if delivery takes place at a hospital with a high-volume, top-level Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), but birthing costs are not more expensive than at lower-level units.

Findings show a baby's chance of dying are reduced by 38 percent if the infant is born in a facility with a Level III NICU that treats 15 or more babies per day, compared to a hospital with no NICU or a lower level NICU.

A Level III unit, such as the one at the UCSF Medical Center, is a regional resource that provides a full range of specialized neonatal care services, including consultants in medical sub-specialties and surgery.

A hospital's obstetric service also may play a key role in neonatal survival, says study co-investigator Roderic Phibbs, a neonatologist and professor of pediatrics at UCSF.

"If an NICU has a low volume of patients it is almost certain that the obstetric service in that hospital will have a low volume of high-risk cases," the team reports. "It is quite possible that the volume of high-risk obstetric cases and the level of obstetric care available have an effect on neonatal mortality."

Despite the difference in survival outcomes, costs for the birth of infants born at hospitals with high-volume, Level III NICUs were not higher than for those born at other hospitals with lower level NICUs, the research showed.

Based on this finding, the co-authors write, "Concentration of high-risk deliveries in urban areas in a smaller number of hospitals that could provide Level III NICU care has the potential to decrease neonatal mortality without increasing costs."

The research team adds that while regional consolidation and reorganization of NICUs would affect patient travel times, "previous research has found that high-risk women are willing to travel further to give birth in a tertiary center."

The study, published in the Oct. 2 issue of The Journal of of the American Medical Association, involved 53,229 infants born in more than 300 non-federal hospitals in California who were considered high-risk and likely to be admitted to an NICU. Hospitals were classified by the level of NICU care available: non-NICU or Level I, intermediate NICU or Level II, expanded intermediate NICU or Level II-plus, and regional/tertiary NICU or Level III.

Researchers say that their findings point to several topics that warrant additional study. For example, controlling their data for patient conditions and hospital of birth, they found that infants insured by HMOs or by public insurance and those with no insurance had significantly higher death rates, but the cause was unclear.

In related news, UCSF, considered an academic center of excellence in neonatal and perinatal medicine, will link with neonatologists at Alta Bates to care for extremely ill infants referred by the East Bay hospital. Alta Bates also operates a Level III NICU.